

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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CIRCULAR 765

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

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ACTION: CIRCULAR TO ALL DIPLOMATIC/POSTAL VIEWED BY

DATE 3/19/68

Deptel Circular 730

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE.

( ) RELEASE ( ) DECLASSIFY  
( ) EXCISE ( ) DECLASSIFY in PART  
( ) DENY ( ) Non-responsive info.  
FOI, EO or PA exemptions

( ) CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_ TS authority to: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C, OADR

This circular prescribes the procedure to be followed in connection with the issuance of clearances to vessels departing from foreign ports destined for the quarantine areas. For the purposes of this instruction the quarantine area encompasses the waters within 500 miles of Cuba.

In connection with the quarantine of shipments of offensive weapons and associated materiel to Cuba declared by the President on October 23, 1962, the United States has instituted a clearance system to be administered in foreign ports through consular officers, assisted as required by military attaches, and in the United States by customs officers. The purpose of this system is to avoid unnecessary delays and other difficulties arising out of the stoppage, inspection, and possible diversion of vessels in the quarantine area.

This system is applicable to two categories of foreign vessels; those which transit the quarantine area destined for a non-Cuban port, and those destined for a Cuban port.

With respect to vessels destined for a non-Cuban port, the ship's agent or other officer may submit the information required on the Notice of Transit

Drafted by: L:L/EUR:J.Trippe:jed 10/25/62

Telegraphic transmission and

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set forth below at the last port of call before entering the quarantine area either directly or by any available means of communication to a consular officer. This information will be forwarded expeditiously by the consular officer to the Embassy for the attention of the interested service attaches. This information will be forwarded by the service attaché to the appropriate US authorities to facilitate the movement of that vessel through the quarantine area.

QUOTE

NOTICE OF TRANSIT

It is anticipated that the vessel named below, which is not destined for Cuba, will transit waters within 500 miles of Cuba. I certify that the particulars given below are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and correct.

1. Name, nationality and type of vessel \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name and address of owner \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name and address of charterer (if chartered above-defined) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Port of departure for \_\_\_\_\_ area \_\_\_\_\_
5. Proposed date of departure \_\_\_\_\_
6. Port of destination \_\_\_\_\_
7. Estimated date arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Timely receipt of the above information by a consular officer will facilitate the movement of this vessel through the quarantine area. END QUOTE

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With respect to a foreign vessel whose next port of call is Cuba, an owner, charterer, master or agent may apply to the nearest Consulate for a clearance certificate (CLEARCERT), set forth below. Upon inspection of the ship by an individual ~~authorized~~ ~~authorized~~ by a service attache and a determination by him that no offensive weapons or associated materiel, as defined in the Proclamation or designated by the Secretary of Defense pursuant thereto, are on board, a consular officer, or if no such officer is available at the port, the designee of the service attache on behalf of the consular officer may approve the application. The CLEARCERTS may be issued to all vessels meeting the foregoing requirement including Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, i.e., vessels flying the ~~XXXX~~ flags of Red China, Outer Mongolia, North Korea, North Vietnam, East Germany, U.S.S.R., Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Czechoslovakia and vessels chartered by them.

With respect to non-Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, a CLEARCERT may be issued on the basis of a minimal inspection if the completed application indicates that no offensive weapons or associated materiel are on board and if no suspicious circumstances exist. When suspicious circumstances exist, and in the case of all Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, a more detailed inspection of the cargo will be made. Detailed instructions for military attaches will follow separately.

QUOTE

CLEARCERT

Application for and Approval of Clearcert  
for Foreign-Flag Vessel

Port:

Date:



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Since the clearance system is designed to ameliorate possible hardships to shipping, addressee posts should establish the system as rapidly as possible. In order to achieve this goal the Department is concurrently issuing a press release, Diplomatic Missions and appropriate consular posts reporting directly to and a notice to Mariners will be issued. ~~Administrations~~ are requested to bring the clearance procedure to the attention of their respective government authorities in such manner and at such level as the post concerned considers appropriate and, in the absence of objection by those authorities, to establish the procedure, including notification to shipping circles, in a manner appropriate to the circumstances of the post. In this regard a statement along the following lines may be made:

QUOTE In connection with the quarantine of shipments of offensive weapons and associated materiel to Cuba proclaimed by the President of the United States on October 23, 1962, a clearance system has been instituted to avoid unnecessary delays and other difficulties arising out of the stoppage, inspection or possible diversion of ships. This system applies to foreign vessels that transit the quarantine area destined for a non-Cuban port and those destined for a Cuban port with cargo which ~~contains~~ contains no offensive weapons or associated materiel. It is available to vessels of any flag including those of the Sino-Soviet bloc. A clearance may be obtained at the last port of call before entering the quarantine area from an American consular officer or his authorized representative for the purpose of facilitating the movement of vessels. In unusual circumstances it may be necessary to stop, inspect or divert a ship despite the fact that it has a clearance; ~~Clearance forms are available at American Embassies and Consulates.~~ Clearance forms are available at American Embassies and Consulates.

END

RUSK

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